

Grafham Gossip

Issue 40 Early Deadline: *Midnight Thursday 18th October*

Editors' note...

There's a great deal of 'Gadding About' in Grafham over the next few weeks. There's **Back to Church Sunday** 30th September and the **photo display** in Ellington on the same day, a **Harvest Service** followed by 'Bring and Share' lunch 7th October, **flu jabs** 13th October, **Safari Supper** closing date 15th October, **children's Hallowe'en party** 31st October, advance notice of **Fireworks Night** and yet more. Look up the details in this copy of the *Grafham Gossip!*



Editors, gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk

Grafham All Saints - Services

30th September (5th Sunday) 11.00 - All Age Worship - 'Back to Church' Service
 7th October (1st Sunday) 11.00 - Harvest Festival Service followed by 'Bring and Share' lunch
 14th October (2nd Sunday) 11.00 - Eucharist
 21st October (3rd Sunday) 11.00 - Family Worship (NB: No 8.00 service)
 28th October (4th Sunday) 11.00 - Eucharist
 4th November (1st Sunday) 11.00 - Family Service - Patronal Service - All Saints Day



First-timers and visitors very welcome

Contacting the Clergy: Fr Jonathan Young (rector), The Rectory, Ellington PE28 0AU Tel. 01480 891695. Fr Martin Kettle (curate), The Vicarage, Alconbury PE28 4DX tel. 01480 890284 or mob. 07876 755587.
 Churchwardens: Jill Dighton 01480 811862 Jill Tyack 01480 810157

New Style Safari Supper

Saturday 27th October

The closing date for this event will be **Monday October 15th** (when the courses will be drawn).

For more details, or to sign up please call



Pat Watson 811166 or Philippa Patel 811656.

Grafham Fireworks Night Saturday November 3rd

Food and Drinks available from **6:30 pm**

£3 For Adults
£1 For Children

Hotdogs - £1.50
 Potatoes - £0.50
 Soup - £0.50
 Mulled wine - £1.00
 Squash - FREE



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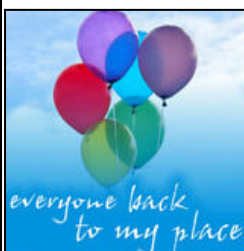
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We'd love to welcome you to a special service at:

ALL SAINTS GRAFHAM
 on 30th September
 at 11.00am



An informal service without Communion especially for those who would like to 'Come back to Church'

Everybody Welcome

Halloween Party

There will be a Halloween party for the children of Grafham from 4.30 till 6.30 on 31st October in the village hall.



Grafham Gen

The Ellington Thorpe Horse Races

In the 1920s point to point races were held at Ellington Thorpe once a year in March. The meetings took place on Thorpe Lodge Farm in the field opposite the Elms smallholding. The course was about two miles around the farm using the hedges as jumps and the brook as the water jump. Most of the horses arrived by train at Grafham Station on the race day. As a special treat Grafham children were allowed out of school early to go to the races, local bookies also attended. The events were organised by the Cambridge University Hunt Club.



Sam Malt

GRAFHAM AND ELLINGTON PHOTOGRAPHIC DISPLAY

MANY NEW PHOTOGRAPHS

**SUNDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER
ELLINGTON VILLAGE HALL
10.00AM - 4.00PM**



**PRESENTED BY
GRAFHAM WILDLIFE AND
CONSERVATION GROUP
LED BY SAM MALT**

**FREE ADMISSION - DONATIONS TO
ELLINGTON CHURCH AND VILLAGE HALL FUNDS
REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE**

View from the Pew!

At the family service on 2nd September, we joined with friends and family of Ann and Mel Wright to celebrate their Silver Wedding

Anniversary. Many congratulations go to Ann and Mel and also our thanks for letting us share in this special occasion with them.

Our thanks are also extended to the Huntingdonshire Church Bells Preservation Group who was able to have our church bells mended and ringing again in time for Ann and Mel's day. The Preservation Group are a band of volunteer experts who, through their love of church bells, spend many hours in belfries and church towers restoring ailing bells. We are very grateful to them for their hard work and dedication.

The weekend of the Flower Festival, Fun Day and Songs of Praise (8th and 9th September) proved to be a great success. The flowers in church were amazing. It was very heartening to see so many appreciative and generous visitors to the church over the two days. On the Sunday, Jill Tyack conducted guided 'Tours up the Tower' whilst Martin Tyack provided cappuccino down at base camp - a unique addition to the events and very popular. Our appreciation goes to the Flower Club and the arrangers who never cease to amaze us with their ingenious displays. It was particularly noticeable how many children were actively involved in creating arrangements too. If you weren't able to join in with Sunday's Fun Day on the playing field, you missed a real treat. Katrina and the team provided us with a very enjoyable afternoon. There was something going on continually and an excellent community spirit was very much in evidence. It was great to see so many smiling faces. Many thanks to Katrina and all those involved in working so hard to make the afternoon a memorable one. The day was rounded off by a Songs of Praise service conducted by our rector, Jonathan Young, who had ingeniously created a quiz based on the names of the musicals depicted in the Flower Festival arrangements, with hints from within the hymns we were singing! The whole weekend went to prove that life is certainly not dull in Grafham. Additionally, the proceeds from the weekend, a very encouraging sum of £1400, were kindly donated to church funds.



A MASSIVE 'THANK YOU' TO EVERY SINGLE PERSON INVOLVED IN ANY WAY!

Further to the meeting in church on 12th September regarding the church's structural problems and the restoration needed to prevent eventual collapse, a 'Friends of Grafham Church' committee will now be inaugurated. Gradually, it is hoped that events will be organised in order to begin to raise some of the funds needed to remedy the structural problems. Thank you to those who were able to attend this meeting and to those who have volunteered to join the committee or help out. It sounds like Grafham is set for yet more fun in the weeks and months ahead. Watch out for details in the 'Grafham Gossip'.

Forthcoming church events include: **30th September - 'Back to Church Sunday' service 11am** (see ad), **7th October Harvest Festival service** followed by **Bring and Share Lunch at 11am** (see ad), **18th November - 'Lights to Remember' service with Marie Curie Cancer Care - 4pm** (see ad).

From Mid October, we hope to be offering for sale a range of Fairly Traded items, including dried fruits and gifts on the run up to Advent and Christmas; ideal for those thinking about starting on the Christmas Puds!



District Councillors **Peter Downes** and **Patricia Jordan** are available at the village hall between 11.15 and 11.45 on the first Saturday of the month. At other times contact: **Peter.Downes@cam-bridgeshire.gov.uk** or tel **01480 398082** and **Patricia.Jordan@huntsdc.gov.uk**

Grafham Cricket Club

Our opponents on September 1st; were Roxton II. This was their last game of the season, and they wanted to end in a flourish. Our away game earlier in the season had been cancelled due to the poor state of their rain affected pitch. Roxton had also (on their website) expressed disappointment with Grafham for not wanting to play on this pitch. For members of the Grafham team these comments added an extra spur to the match.



Grafham won the toss, and put Roxton into bat on a slightly green wicket, that quickly showed unpredictable bounce. Adam Dighton and Ben Dickson opened Grafham's bowling, and proved a testing and accurate combo, with only 51 runs coming from their 20 overs. Adam worked up pace that troubled all batsman and finished with 3 wickets for 15, while Ben bowled tidily for no reward, going for 31 off his ten overs. Roxton quickly lost more wickets to the change bowlers Adi Love and John Fozzard; slipping to 66 for 9. It was especially pleasing to see John back at the bowling crease fully recovered from the pulled calf muscle he sustained at the Putnoe match, which could have ruled him out for the rest of the season. But Roxton's final two batsmen held the line, putting on 65 runs before their 40 overs expired, giving Roxton a total of 131 for 9. A.P. Singh who scored 48 not out, in his youth was an Indian under 17 batsman: and it showed.

Grafham's reply started badly with Colin Grundy out second ball of the innings, but a patient partnership between Duncan Palmer and Ian Dickson re-built the innings. Roxton's tactic of rotating their bowling made it difficult for Ian and Duncan, keeping the Grafham run rate just below what was required. Quick singles became the order of the day, which generated mistakes in Roxton's fielding and improved the run rate. After Duncan was out for 24, Ian's innings became pivotal, and looked as though he would steer us home to victory, but he was bowled on the fourth last ball of the innings for 47, leaving two runs for victory off the last three balls. Tense: the heart beats of the Grafham team members in the pavilion would have drowned out any Samba band. Ben Dickson was the next man in, with conflicting advice ringing in his ears about how to approach the coming three balls. Ben slugged the first ball for two, tension released, innings over, victory won; Grafham's second of the season.



Grafham's last game of the season was against St Andrews at home. Grafham again won the toss, and put St Andrews into bat. Accurate bowling by Adam Dighton and Adi Love restricted St Andrew's scoring, but again it was one batsman who held out; scoring 65 not out leaving St Andrews at their innings close 148 for 9.

Grafham's reply matched St Andrew's run rate, but Grafham kept regularly losing wickets; scores of 26 from Adam Dighton, 22 not out from Adi Love and 20 from John Fozzard was not enough, and Grafham lost by 13 runs at 135 for 9.

The prospect is that Grafham will be relegated from Division 2, but the spirit and commitment the team showed in the last two games, augur well for the next season, whatever league Grafham plays in.

Chris Dighton, Club Chairman 01480 11862

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Monthly Report

There has just been one report of an attempted burglary in a dwelling in Church Road, Grafham – unknown offenders attempted to gain entry by removing internal door locks after gaining access through a porch. Entry not gained.



There is a police surgery outside the Post Office at Perry on Chichester Way from 5pm – 7pm on 2nd October. Everyone is welcome.

Contact numbers, as always:

Crimestoppers: **0800 555111**

Police Control: **845 4564564**

Emergency : **999**

James Snell

e-mail jamie2701@aol.com tel **07951 069565**

Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

Yes, its that time of the year again.....

Last year, as a village, we were able to donate



forty-two completed shoeboxes to under-privileged children in eastern Asia. Can we beat the target this year?



I'll shortly be delivering leaflets through your door which give you an idea of suitable items. If, for any reason, you don't get one, please ring me and I'll gladly bring another round to you. Each completed shoebox also needs to include £2 (cash, on-line donation or cheque - payable to "Samaritan's Purse") in order to cover transportation costs so a monetary contribution is also very welcome.

I hope you will agree with me that this is a very worthwhile cause and will bring much happiness to children less fortunate than ourselves. Boxes should be left with me no later than Sunday 18th November.

Many thanks. **Moira Young, 2 Meadowground Grafham tel. 811577**

Thank you everyone!

Thank you to our raffle prize sponsors at the **Grafham Fun Day** Grafham Funday which include The Cinnamon, The Ironing Shop, 3Ms, Kier Construction, the George at Spaldwick and Nene Valley Railway to name just a few.

'Come, ye thankful people,
come!'

A Harvest Celebration Service

**Sunday 7th October 2007 at 11 am
at Grafham All Saints Church**

Followed by:

Bring and Share Lunch
Wine and Soft drinks provided.



Please bring along some of your favourite food to share with friends after the service!

'FRIENDS OF GRAFHAM CHURCH'

Thank you to all those who came to the meeting in church on 12th September to hear all about the structural problem facing the church building and what has been proposed to rectify it. As a result of this meeting, a 'Friends of Grafham Church' Committee will be established to begin to organise fund-raising events.

Make sure to watch out for future planned events in your 'Gossip'. As well as endeavouring to help raise some of the money needed towards restoring the church, the emphasis will be on having fun too! (If you were unable to come along to the meeting but would like to hear more about what is happening to the church and perhaps join the 'Friends' committee, please 'phone Jill on 811862)

Buckden Surgery Patients Association (BSPA)

A precis of an article by Sue Paul

For original article see www.bandlp.co.uk

At 7pm on Wed. 10th October we have an evening of presentations

which we believe will both inform and enhance awareness of the available support for many people anxious to maintain their independence at home with dignity and confidence. We also hope it will be of interest to younger people who may need to respond to the growing needs of an ageing relative. There will be presentations by **1. A 'Falls Prevention' coordinator 2. A 'Hospice at Home' speaker 3. A speaker on 'Assisted Technology at Home' with a demonstration of some aids 4. A speaker on Acupuncture.** We hope for a really positive response as this is a one-off chance to learn from the professionals in this field. Refreshments will be served and there will be time to answer questions. If you wish to attend, but are unable to get there please contact **Betty Millard 810087 or Sue Paul 811650** at least 48 hours in advance and we shall try to organize a lift.

The next important date is **Saturday 13th October**, and if you have not already booked to have a flu injection this year, appointment sheets for choosing a time between **8am and 2pm** are available at Buckden Surgery while for Little Paxton the times are between **9am and 12 mid-day.**



Our last important date for this month is **Tuesday 16th October at 7pm** when the BSPA holds its AGM at the Buckden Surgery. We are elected to represent all the patients in this joint practice, so please come along and let us know your views and any issues that concern you.

Concerns about the financial viability of the NHS at local level continue. It is anticipated that the number of beds at Hinchingbrooke Hospital will drop from 240 to 180 which represents a 25% reduction and means closing a further 2 wards. This can only be achieved through shorter hospital stays or having fewer patients referred to hospital in the first instance. Logically this means a significantly increased level of work for our doctors and nurses at the surgery as they cope with the responsibility for patients discharged early after major surgery, and those who might otherwise have been admitted. This is of course in addition to their daily patient commitments. There is a lack of clarity around the funding allocation for this significantly increased workload and the consequent need for more professionals to work with highly dependent patients in the community. Additionally, although there is to be an increase in the budget from next year, Children's Services and Social Care costs will then have to come out of the same Primary Care budget. Effectively this means that at a time of hugely increased expectations on surgeries, the money allocated to Primary Care has to be shared by more people with competing demands.

On a lighter note, my paragraph on the touchscreen capabilities of ladies versus men read somewhat ambiguously! In fact women have fewer problems than men because they take time to read the Instructions and then follow them. Sorry chaps!

Refurbishment of the Buckden surgery is now in progress and it is hoped to keep disruption to the minimum, as I said last month, hopefully the end result will justify any small inconveniences.



Letters to the Editors... Does it not beggar belief that all the people who wanted the speed bumps removed can now drive as fast as they like. I lived on the Oxmoor estate for many years and thought that speeding drivers there were the worst I would see, that was until I moved to Grafham! There is a national speed limit applies sign at the top of the Brampton Rd, I am quite sure that many of the drivers that use this road have never read the highway code or they would know that a single lane road in this country has a national speed limit of 30 mph. Then there is the Ellington Road, many of you think you have more right to be on this road over and above learner drivers and I will be passing the vehicle numbers who continually cut up learner drivers, to the police. I have already reported a few drivers to the police and they are interested to know of any more drivers who continue to drive, with no regard for any one else, so you have been warned! **Sarah Smith**

e-mail letters to gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk

Calling all Gardeners!

I am starting up a plant stall in the Church porch to raise funds for the Church Restoration Fund. If you are splitting plants this Autumn and have some to spare please throw them in my direction. I can pot them up but please include a name and any info you think might be helpful. Thank you, **Jill Tyack 19, Breach Rd.**

Village Hall Carpets

The carpet in the village hall foyer and corridor get very dirty and stained during the year due to the regular hard use by everyone who enters the hall. Clint Thomas-Morgan and Ben Stewart have cleaned the carpet for us, which now once again present a favourable impression to those entering the hall.

Many thanks to Clint and Ben from the Village Hall Committee!

Grafham Social Committee

invites you to a **Coffee Morning** for retired residents **10.30am** on **Wednesday October 10th** with **Francis Knight** at **18 Church Road**.



Grafham Wildlife and Conservation Group

meet on the first Sunday of the month to carry out woodland conservation. Please talk to **Sam Malt** for more details about the group **810844**(daytime) **811654**(evening)



Grafham Church Flower Club

Every **3rd Tuesday** of the month at **8pm** we meet in the **village hall** to learn how to make different floral arrangements for home and for larger displays. If you are interested in helping with flowers in the church, please come along. There is a **£2.00** charge per session. For details call **Karenza Rosier 812556** or **Jill Tyack 810157**.



Ellington and Grafham W.I.

Join the growing team! We meet on the first Tuesday in the month. For details ring: Sue Rice **896139** or Ann Davies **891372**



Do you play Canasta...or would you like to learn?

Please contact: **Wendy 01480 811441**



'Lights to Remember'

Sunday 18th November
at **4pm**

All Saints Church, Grafham



On Sunday 18th November, we will be holding a special service to remember all those known to us who have died. It will be our privilege to be host to the friends and organisers of the 'Marie Curie Cancer Care' organisation who have asked to join in this service with us. During the service, there will be an opportunity to light a candle in remembrance of a loved one and names of the departed will be read out.

If you would like to have a name read out during the service, please complete the form in church or telephone details to Jill Dighton on 811862. Please feel able to invite family and friends to this service. They will be very welcome.

Your local Avon representative is

Julie Thomas-Morgan

tel. **01480 812590** or **07899 845355**

AVON



Christmas is Coming! The **Five Parish Advent Fair** has been fixed for **8th December** in **Grafham Village Hall**.



GRAFHAM VILLAGE HALL has a Public

Entertainments Licence for music, dancing, performing arts and can accommodate 92 guests seated in rows or 150 at a dance/disco - **an ideal venue for children's and family parties**. There is a playing field for sports activities and the hall has small changing rooms with shower facilities. **For more details** including hire charges or to book the hall **contact Pat or Alan Watson 01480 811166**

The **Mobile Library** (route H103) visits **Breach Rd, Grafham** on alternate **Wednesdays** from **11.35 to 11.55**. Visits this month are: **October 3rd and 17th and 31st**. Renewals or enquiries call **0845 045 5225**

<http://hipweb.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/mobiles/index.html>



Grafham Bookworms
Social, Film and
Debate Club



The next meeting is Tuesday 30th October at 8pm
with Margaret Life (819477) at 6 Home Close.
For details of the October read, please call Margaret.

Babysitters **Olivia Sinfield** Grade B GCSE Child Development -**17yrs** Tel **811831**

Jessica Homewood-babysitting course- **15yrs** Tel **810867**

Kate Kelley -babysitting course -**15yrs** Tel **812179**

Kirsty Elliot -babysitting course - **15yrs** Tel **810550**

Felicity Jenkinson - Grade B GCSE Child Development - **17yrs** Tel **812328**

Danielle Meyer - speaks French, can help with homework - **16yrs** Tel **811279**

Anna Fozzard- **15yrs** Tel **812021**



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Grafham Water Centre

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Call 01480 810521 for more information and a brochure

To advertise e-mail us:
gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk

'My Love For Dogs'



We offer dog-friendly, home boarding for your canine friend with all home comforts and a secure garden. Holly, our beautiful golden Labrador puppy, loves to play with new friends. Rest assured your dog will have at least two long walks a day either at the nearby heath, or in the fields surrounding our village. We are insured and police checked. For further details please call **Amanda Bishop 07903 806 750**

Deadline Dates

Grafham Gossip deadline dates for the next few months are midnight on the following Thursdays, but we welcome articles earlier if you have them ready.

October 18th, November 15th, December 13th or preferably December 6th if possible.

Thank you for all your contributions! *Editors, Grafham Gossip*